<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

    receiving a first utterance from an intended talker at an integrated speech and speaker recognition system;

    generating a voice characteristic model for the intended talker;

    receiving a second utterance from the intended talker ~~in a noisy environment~~ at the speaker recognition system;

    processing a portion of speech associated with the second utterance, wherein processing comprises,

        computing a speaker verification score ~~with~~ <u>based on</u> the voice characteristic model associated with the portion of speech,

        computing a speech recognition score associated with the portion of speech, and

        generating a combined score by combining the speaker verification score and the speech recognition score; and

    selecting a best hypothesis ~~associated with~~ <u>from a plurality of hypotheses representing automatic speech recognition results of</u> the second utterance<u>,</u> ~~and~~ based upon the combined score.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of speech includes a word, a sentence, a syllable, or a frame.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing further comprises altering a search path in a Viterbi search used by a speech recognizer.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein identifying a intended talker comprises~~ further comprising using hotword speech recognition to identify the intended talker.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the voice characteristic model includes a voice print, a personal profile and linguistic characteristics.

7. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

    a speech system; and

    a speech input device connected to the speech system; wherein the speech system comprises,

        a voice server, wherein the server includes an integrated speech and speaker recognizer that,

        receives a first utterance from an intended talker via the speech input device;

        creates a voice characteristic model for the intended talker;

        receives a second utterance from the intended talker via the speech input device ~~in a noisy environment~~;

        processes a portion of speech associated with the second utterance, wherein the processor

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computes a speaker verification score ~~with~~ based on the voice

characteristic model associated with the portion of speech,

computes a speech recognition score associated with the portion of

speech, and

generates a combined score by combining the speaker verification score

and the speech recognition score; and

selects a best hypothesis ~~associated with~~ from a plurality of hypotheses

representing automatic speech recognition results of the second

utterance, based upon the combined score.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the speech input device comprises a

cellular telephone, an analog telephone, a digital telephone, and a voice over internet

protocol device.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the portion of speech includes a word, a

sentence, a syllable, or a frame.

10. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the server is further configured to alter a

search path in a Viterbi search used by a speech recognizer.

11. (Currently amended) An integrated speech and speaker recognition system

comprising:

means for receiving a first utterance from the intended talker;

means for generating a voice characteristic model for the intended talker;

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means for receiving a second utterance from the intended talker ~~in a noisy~~

~~environment~~ at the speaker recognition system;

means for processing a portion of speech associated with the second

utterance, wherein processing comprises,

means for computing a speaker verification score ~~with~~ based on the voice

characteristic model associated with the portion of speech,

means for computing a speech recognition score associated with the

portion of speech, and

means for generating a combined score by combining the speaker

verification score and the speech recognition score; and

means for selecting a best hypothesis ~~associated with~~ from a plurality of

hypotheses representing automatic speech recognition results of the

second utterance, ~~and~~ based upon the combined score.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the portion of speech includes a word, a

sentence, a syllable, or a frame.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the means for processing further

comprises means for altering a search path in a Viterbi search used by a speech

recognizer on the second utterance.

14. (Original) The system of claim 11, ~~wherein the means for identifying an intended~~

~~talker comprises~~ further comprising means for using hotword speech recognition to

identify the intended talker.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the voice characteristic model includes a voice print, a personal profile and linguistic characteristics.

17. (Currently amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform a process comprising:

receiving a first utterance from the intended talker at an integrated speech and speaker recognition system;

generating a voice characteristic model for the intended talker;

receiving a second utterance from the intended talker in a noisy environment at the speaker recognition system;

processing a portion of speech associated with the second utterance, wherein processing comprises,

computing a speaker verification score with based on the voice characteristic model associated with the portion of speech,

computing a speech recognition score associated with the portion of speech, and

generating a combined score by combining the speaker verification score and the speech recognition score; and

selecting a best hypothesis associated with from a plurality of hypotheses representing automatic speech recognition results of the second utterance, and based upon the combined score.

18. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 17 wherein the portion of speech includes a word, a sentence, a syllable, or a frame.

19. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 17, having stored thereon additional instructions when processing a portion of speech, said additional instructions when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform altering a search path in a Viterbi search used by a speech recognizer.

20. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 17, having stored thereon additional instructions when identifying a intended talker, said additional instructions when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform using hotword speech recognition to identify the intended talker.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the voice characteristic model includes a voice print, a̲ personal profile and linguistic characteristics.

23. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

    receiving an utterance from an intended talker at a speech recognition system;

    computing a speaker verification score ~~with~~ based on a voice characteristic model associated and with the utterance;

    computing a speech recognition score associated with the utterance; and

selecting a best hypothesis ~~associated with~~ from a plurality of hypotheses

representing automatic speech recognition results of the utterance, ~~and~~

based on both the speaker verification score and the speech recognition

score.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the voice characteristic model is

obtained from a voice model database.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the voice characteristic model is

obtained from a first portion of the utterance.

26. (Currently amended) A speech recognition system comprising:

a speaker verifier;

a speech recognizer connected to the speaker verifier; and

an input device connected to the speaker verifier and speech recognizer, wherein

the input device receives an utterance from an intended talker; and

wherein the speech recognizer generates a recognition score associated with the

utterance and generates a plurality of hypotheses representing automatic speech

recognition results of the utterance, the speaker verifier generates a speaker verification

score associated with the utterance; and the recognition score is combined with the

verification score to select a best hypothesis of the ~~utterance~~ plurality of hypotheses.

27. (Original) The speech recognition system of claim 26, wherein the speech

recognizer and speaker verifier are software entities residing on a speech server, and

wherein the speech server comprises a processor, a bus connected to the processor, and memory connected to the bus that stores the software entities.

28. (Original) The speech recognition system of claim 27, further comprising a database connected to the speech server, wherein the database stores a voice characteristic model of the intended talker.